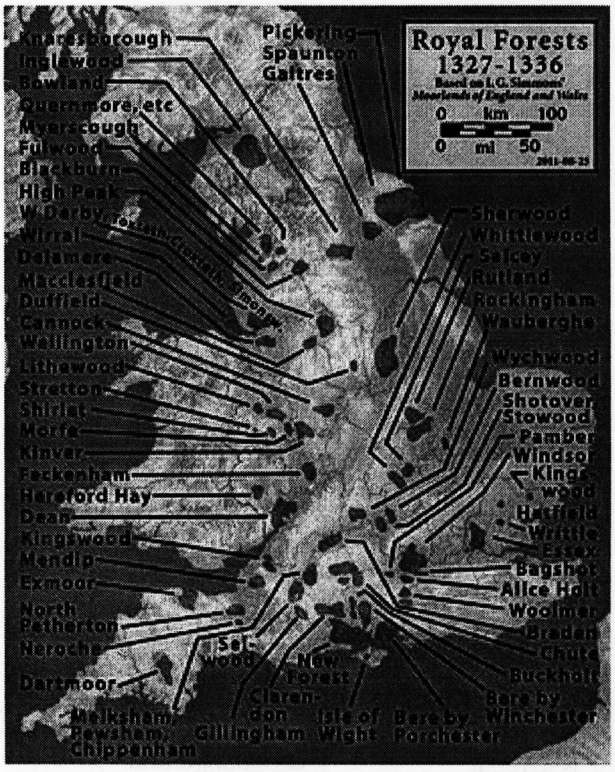
bordered on the west along the River Erewash and the Forest of East Derbyshire. When the Domesday Book was compiled in 1086, the forest covered perhaps a quarter of Nottinghamshire in woodland and heath subject to the forest laws.

Royal forests by county

England



Name of forest	County	Disafforestation date	Notes	Soil or landscape
Accrington	Lancashire			
Aconbury[29]	Herefordshire	1216, part[30]	360 acres assarted to support a nunnery in 1216[30]	
Alice Holt and Woolmer Forests	Hampshire	1812	[29]	Sandy, gravelly acid soils; dry oak, birch wood[8]
Allerdale Forest	Cumberland		[29]	
Alnwick	Northumberland	1280	[29]	
Alveston	Gloucestershire		[29]	
Archenfield	Herefordshire	1251	[29]	
Ashurst	Sussex		[29]	
Bagshot	Surrey		Part of Windsor Forest[29]	Sandy, gravelly acid soils; dry oak, birch wood[8]
Becontree	Essex		[29]	

Name of forest	County	Disafforestation date	Notes	Soil or landscape
Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire	1191, Part disafforested	[29]	
Bere Forest including Bere Ashley	Hampshire and Dorset	1269, in Dorset	[29]	Sandy, gravelly acid soils; dry oak, birch wood[8]
Bere Porchester	Hampshire	1810	[31]	Sandy, gravelly acid soils; dry oak, birch wood[8]
Berkshire	Berkshire	1227	[31]	
Bernwood Forest	Buckinghamshire	1622	Including Brill and Panshill[31]	Clay soils, woodlands[8]
Bernwood Forest	Oxfordshire	1622	Partly in Bucks[31]	Clay soils, woodlands[8]
Blackmoor Forest	Dorset	1277	[31]	Heavy clay soils, dense oak forest[8]
Blackmore	Wiltshire		Alias Melksham[31]	
Bolsover Forest	Derbyshire		[31]	
Bowland	Lancashire and Yorkshire			
Braydon Forest or Forest of Braden	Wiltshire	1630	Including parish of Minety, at that time in Gloucestershire[31] Disafforested with riots[32]	Heavy clay soils, dense oak forest[8]
Brewood Forest	Staffordshire or Shropshire	1204	[31]	
Brigstock	Northamptonshire	1638	Part of Rockingham Forest[31]	
Brill	Buckinghamshire		Part of Bernwood Forest[31]	
Burrington Forest				
Cannock Chase	Staffordshire	1290, in part	1290 partially given to the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield for a Chase[33]	
Carlisle	Cumberland		or Inglewood Forest[31]	
Charnwood Forest				
Chelmsford	Essex			
Chippenham	Wiltshire	1618–23	Perhaps excepting Bowood or Pewsham New Park[34]	Heavy clay soils, dense oak forest[8]

Name of forest	County	Disafforestation date	Notes	Soil or landscape
Chute Forest	Hampshire and Wiltshire	1639–61	Included Finkley and Digerley Forests[34]	
Cirencester	Gloucester		Possibly Braydon[34]	
Clarendon Forest	Wiltshire	1664 (Clarendon)	Including Panchet Wood and Milchet Park, with the associated Forest of Buckholt, Hampshire[34]	
Claverley and Worfield	Shropshire		[34]	
Cornbury	Oxfordshire		Or Wychwood[34]	
Cornwall	Cornwall	1204	Two woods and two moors disafforested 1215[34]	
Dartmoor	Devon	1204	Annexed to Duchy of Cornwall 1337[34]	High moorlands[8]
Dean	Gloucestershire and Herefordshire		[34]	Midland clay plain, oak forest[8]
Delamere	Cheshire	1812	Remains of the Forests of Mara and Mondrem; outside of normal forest administration[34]	Sandstone with glacial sands and gravels and fertile clay;wetlands
Duffield Frith	Derbyshire		A group of six royal forests	
East Derbyshire[35]				
Epping Forest part of Waltham Forest	Essex	1878	Epping Forest Act 1878 established preservation and common rights	
Essex, north	Essex	1204	"North of the Stanestreet",[9][36] Tendring Hundred 1228	Boulder clay, fertile lands[9]
Exmoor Forest	Devon and Somerset	1815	[36]	High moorlands[8]
Farndale Forest	Yorkshire	1209	[36]	
Feckenham Forest	Worcestershire and Warwickshire	1622–31	[36] Riots on disafforestation 1630–31[37]	Midland clay plain, woodlands[8]
Filwood	Somerset		Part of Kingswood[36]	
Forest of Essex	Essex	1204	Entire county afforested to 1204[36]	
Forest of High Peak	North Derbyshire			
Forest of Huntingdonshire	Huntingdonshire		Mainly Forests of Weybridge, Sapley and Herthey. Whole	

Name of forest	County	Disafforestation date	Notes	Soil or landscape
			small county in C13th[38]	
Forest of Middlesex	Middlesex and part of modern Hertfordshire	1218	[45]	
Forest of Northumberland	Northumberland	1280	[41]	
Forest of Rossendale	Lancashire			
Forest of Rutland, with Sauvey Forest	Leicestershire	1398	Granted to the Duke of Abermarle[48]	
Forest of Wirral	Cheshire	1376	[49]	
Freemantle Forest	Hampshire		[36]	
Galtres	Yorkshire	1629	[36]	
Geddington	Northamptonshire	1676	Part of Rockingham Forest[36]	
Gillingham Forest	Dorset	1625	[36]	Heavy clay soils, dense oak forest[8]
Groveley Forest	Wiltshire	1500s	[36]	
Hainault		1851	Part of Essex Forest	
Harewood	Herefordshire		[36]	Midlands clay plain
Hartforth	Yorkshire	1203	[36]	
Hastings, Rape of	Sussex	1206–07	[36]	
Hatfield Forest	Essex		Part of former Essex Forest	
Haughmond	Shropshire		[36]	
Hay of Hereford	Herefordshire			Midlands clay plain
Horwood	Herefordshire		[38]	
Inglewood Forest	Cumberland		Sometimes including Allerdale[38]	
Irchenfield Forest	Herefordshire	1251		
Isle of Wight Forest	Hampshire		[38]	
Kesteven Forest (http://info.sjc.ox.ac.uk/forests/ForestsMapTileSheet123.html)	Lincolnshire Fens	1230	'Forest of the March'[38] NB: this is not the modern forestry management district (https://web.archive.org/web/20120218114001/http://www.forestry.gov.uk/kestevenforest) of the same name	Marsh, fens[39]
Keynsham Forest	Somerset		Alias Kingswood[38]	

Name of forest	County	Disafforestation date	Notes	Soil or landscape
Kilpeck	Herefordshire		[38]	
King's Cliffe	Northamptonshire		Part of Rockingham Forest[38]	
Kingswood	Gloucestershire		Alias Keynsham[38]	
Kinver Forest	Staffordshire formerly extending into Worcestershire		[38]	Midland clay plain, woodlands[8]
Knaresborough Forest	Yorkshire		[38]	
Langwith Hay	Yorkshire			
Lee	Rutland		Or Leighfield[38]	
Leicester Forest	Leicestershire	1628	Riots occurred at disafforestation.[40]	
Linwood	Hampshire		Part of the New Forest[41]	
Long Forest	Shropshire		Incl Longmynd, Stapelwood, Burswood, Lythwood and Stapleton[38]	Midland clay plain, woodlands[8]
Long Mynd or Strattondale	Shropshire			
Lonsdale (including Wyresdale and Quernsmore)	Lancashire	1267	[41]	
Macclesfield Forest	Cheshire		See Delamere Forest[41]	
Malvern Chase	Worcestershire	1632, 1676	Strictly a chase, but 'disaforrested' with riots,[42] confirmed 1676;[43] Malvern Hills Act 1884 established preservation and common rights	Midland clay plain, woodlands;[8] upland moors
Malvern Forest	Worcestershire	1290	Later listed as a chase[41]	Midland clay plain, woodlands;[8] upland moors
Mara et Mondrum	Cheshire	1812	Delamere Forest is a remnant	
Melchet	Wiltshire	1577–1614	In southeast of county, between Clarendon and Hampshire border[44][41]	
Melksham and Chippenham Forest	Wiltshire	1623	[41]	Heavy clay soils, dense oak forest[8]
Mendip Forest	Somerset		Also known as Cheddar[41]	
Morfe Forest	Shropshire		lying east and southeast of Bridgnorth	Midland clay plain,

Name of forest	County	Disafforestation date	Notes	Soil or landscape
				woodlands[8]
Needwood Forest	Staffordshire, east		was parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster; Chase?	
Neroche Forest	Somerset	1627–29	[41]	
New Forest	Hampshire	1877	New Forest Act 1877 established preservation and rights of common	Sandy, gravelly acid soils; dry oak, birch wood[8]
New Forest, Staffordshire	Staffordshire	1204	[41]	
North Petherton	Somerset		[41]	
Ombersley and Horewell	Worcestershire	1229	[46]	Midland clay plain, woodlands[8]
Ongar	Essex		[46]	
Ouse and Derwent	Yorkshire	1234	[46]	
Oxford and Stamford Bridges	Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Huntingdonshire		[46]	
Pamber Forest	Hampshire	1614	Granted to John Waller and Thomas Pursell[46]	
Peak	Derbyshire	1639–1674	[46]	Limestone uplands[8]
Penchet			Part of Clarendon Forest[46]	
Pendle	Lancashire			
Pickering Forest	North Yorkshire	1639	[46]	Sandstone upland plateau[47]
Poorstock Forest	Dorset		(see Powerstock)[46]	
Purbeck	Dorset	1550	Granted to Duke of Somerset[46]	
Rockingham Forest	Northamptonshire	1638 & 1795-6	Including Brigstock, Cliffe, Geddington and Northampton Park; Bailiwicks disafforested 1790s[48]	Clay soils, woodlands[8]
Ryedale	Yorkshire	1204	[46]	
Salcey Forest	Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire	1825	[48]	Clay soils, woodlands[8]
Sauvey	Leicestershire	1236	Except Withcote, 1627[48]	

Name of forest	County	Disafforestation date	Notes	Soil or landscape
Savernake Forest	Berkshire and Wiltshire	1550	Or Marlborough Forest; Granted to Duke of Somerset[48]	
Selwood Forest	Somerset and Wiltshire	1627–29	[48]	Heavy clay soils, dense oak forest[8]
Sherwood Forest	Nottinghamshire	1818	Famous by its historic association with the legend of Robin Hood.[48]	Clay plain, woodlands[8]
Shirlett Forest	Shropshire		Final extent was a small area northwest of Bridgnorth[48]	
Shotover Forest	Oxfordshire		Including Stowood[48]	Clay soils, woodlands[8]
Skipton	Yorkshire			
Somerton Warren	Somerset			
Spaunton	Yorkshire		[48]	
Stapelwood (including Buriwood, Lythewood and Stepelton)	Shropshire			
Surrey, south	Surrey	1191	South of the Guildford Road[48]	
Trawden	Lancashire			
Treville	Herefordshire	1230	Granted to John of Monmouth[49]	
Waltham Forest	Essex		Last remnant of Forest of Essex[49]	
Whittlewood Forest	Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire			Clay soils, woodlands[8]
Windsor Forest	Berkshire, Surrey and negligibly Hampshire	1813	[49]	Sandy, gravelly acid soils; dry oak, birch wood[8]
Woodstock Forest	Oxfordshire		[49]	
Woolmer Forest	Hampshire	1855	[49]	Sandy, gravelly acid soils; dry oak, birch wood[8]
Wrekin Forest	Shropshire		(more strictly Mount Gilbert Forest) (including Wellington and Wombridge) and the associated Forest of Haughmond[49]	Midland clay plain, woodlands[8]

Name of forest	County	Disafforestation date	Notes	Soil or landscape
Wychwood Forest	Oxfordshire	1853	[49]	Heavy clay soils, dense oak forest[8]
Wyre Forest	Worcestershire and Shropshire		Strictly only a chase	
Yardley Chase	Northants			

Ireland

Only one royal forest is known to have been formed in the Lordship of Ireland.

Name of forest	County	Disafforestation date	Notes	Soil or landscape
Glencree	Wicklow	c. 1315	Sir Thomas Fitzadam was Royal Forester of Glencree in 1219.[50] In 1244, sixty does and twenty bucks were ordered to be "taken alive in the king's parks nearest to the port of Chester to be sent to the port of Dalkey, Ireland, and delivered to the king's Treasurer in Dublin to stock the king's Park of Glencry."[51] In 1282, William le Deveneys was granted 12 oaks from the King's forest of Glencree.[52] William de Meones was keeper of the forest and of "the Queen's timber works" in 1290. It is last mentioned in the reign of Edward I and is believed to have been destroyed during the Bruce campaign in Ireland (1315–18).[53][54]	Podzol, oak trees

See also

- Ancient woodland
- Crown land
- Deer park (England)
- English land law
- English Lowlands beech forests
- Perambulation
- History of the forest in Central Europe